L Number	Hits	Search Text	DB	Time stamp
-	2	"20030084049"	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/07 21:37
-	0	link same "multifunction device" same remote near3 (storage$ or database$ or table$ or internet) same data and @ad<20011025	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/07 21:40
-	4	link and "multifunction device" and remote near3 (storage$ or database$ or table$ or internet) same data and @ad<20011025	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/07 21:46
-	3535	707/10.ccls.	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/07 21:45
-	1	707/10.ccls. and (link same "multifunction device")	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/07 21:45
-	2	707/10.ccls. and "multifunction device"	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/07 21:45
-	8	link and "multifunction device" and remote same (storage$ or database$ or table$ or internet) same data and @ad<20011025	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/07 21:49
-	35	link and "multifunction device" and remote and (storage$ or database$ or table$ or internet) same data and @ad<20011025	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/08 09:27
-	6	5760917.pn. 6078406.pn. 6108099.pn.	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	2004/02/08 09:29

storage device **150**. Once the user requests data **155**, the second window **320** may be displayed. In yet other embodiments, the delivery interface **300** may comprise menus, toolbars, etc. In addition, the user may define one or more default locations. For example, the user may define a default location for the user's address book (e.g., the user's PC). Thus, each time that the user logs onto the multifunction device **100**, the multifunction device **100** automatically accesses the user's address book from the user's PC. Still other embodiments are also contemplated as being within the scope of the invention.

[0049] It is also understood security measures may be implemented for use with the multifunction device **100** of the invention. That is, the user may be required to logon (e.g., provide a username and password) to the multifunction device **100** and/or each network device (e.g., the user's PC) from the multifunction device **100** before the user may access data **155** therefrom. In a preferred embodiment, program code may be provided for automatically passing the user's logon information to the network device (e.g., the user's PC) from the multifunction device **100** (e.g., that was previously stored in memory). Thus, the user need not provide the logon information separately for each network device that the user is accessing (e.g., the network server, the user's PC, etc.). Other suitable security may also be implemented, such as encryption, firewalls, etc.

[0050] In other embodiments, program code may also be provided for maintaining a user profile at the multifunction device **100**. The user profile may comprise links to predetermined remote storage devices **150** (e.g., those commonly or previously accessed by the user) for retrieving data **155** therefrom. For example, the user profile may comprise a link (e.g., network address and requisite logon information) to the user's address book on the user's PC, to the department server, etc. Accordingly, the user profile may be retrieved when the user logs onto the multifunction device **100** so that the user may readily access data **155** from remote storage devices **150**.

[0051] An embodiment of a method for accessing data **155** from a multifunction device **100** may be illustrated with reference to **FIG. 4**. According to this embodiment of the method, a remote storage device **150** having the data **155** is preferably identified, as in step **500**. For example, the remote storage device **150** may be identified by network Internet Protocol (IP) address, Uniform Resource Locator (URL), etc. In step **510**, a link may be established between the multifunction device **100** and the remote storage device **150**. For example, the multifunction device **100** may be linked through one or more networks **130** to the remote storage device **150**. Or for example, the multifunction device **100** may be linked directly via link **160** to the remote storage device **150**. In step **520**, the user-specific data **155** may be accessed from the remote storage device **150** to the multifunction device **100** over the link established therebetween.

[0052] Another embodiment of a method for accessing data **155** from a multifunction device **100** is also illustrated in **FIG. 4**. This embodiment of the method may comprise the steps of: identifying a remote storage device **150** having user-requested data **155** thereon, as in step **500**; and accessing in the user-requested data at the remote storage device from a configured multifunction device **100**, as in step **520**.

[0053] It is understood that the steps shown and described in **FIG. 4**, and the examples given with respect thereto, are merely illustrative of methods for accessing data **155** from a multifunction device **100** according to the teachings of the invention. However, other embodiments of the method are also contemplated as being within the scope of the invention. Other embodiments may comprise modifications to the steps shown and/or described above. Still other embodiments may comprise additional steps. In addition, the steps shown and/or described above need not be performed in any given order. For example, one or more of the steps **500**, **510**, **520** (**FIG. 4**) may be performed before, after, or simultaneously with an additional step of the multifunction device **100** converting a document **110** to electronic format. Furthermore, it is understood that the same steps may be performed in more than one manner according to various embodiments of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing access from a multifunction device to data operatively associated with a user-specified remote storage device, comprising:

establishing a link between said multifunction device and a user-specified remote storage device having said data operatively associated therewith; and C2, 3-6

accessing said data operatively associated with said user-specified remote storage device from said multifunction device over said link established therebetween. S1, [0008]

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying said user-specified remote storage device. S1, [0012] — [0013]

3. The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said user-specified remote storage device is based at least in part on a path thereto specified by a user at said multifunction device. ~~C9, 38-45~~ C6, 43-49 & C9, 38-49

4. The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said user-specified remote storage device is based at least in part on a user profile. C3, 50 — 55

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

converting a document to electronic format at said multifunction device; and C2, 65-67

combining said document in electronic format with said accessed data. C9, 3-7

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

combining said accessed data with an electronic document generated at said multifunction device; and C11, 12-19

sending said combined electronic document and accessed data from said multifunction device to a network destination. C3, 1-7 & C7, 12-25

7. The method of claim 1, wherein accessing said data is from an address book operatively associated with said user-specified remote storage device. C12, 8-14

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising identifying a network destination for an electronic document generated at said multifunction device based on said data accessed from said address book. C14, 15-20

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising editing an entry in said address book operatively associated with said user-specified remote storage device from said multifunction device. C6, 50-67

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising configuring said multifunction device before identifying said user-specified remote storage device. C8, 31-39 & C9, 38-42

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying at least a portion of said data at said multifunction device. S2, [0018]

~~C10, 21-24~~

12. A method for accessing user-requested data from a configured multifunction device, comprising:

identifying a remote storage device having said user-requested data operatively associated therewith; and C7, 33-40 & C9, 38-49

retrieving said user-requested data operatively associated with said remote storage device from said configured multifunction device. S3, [0023]

13. The method of claim 12, wherein identifying said remote storage device is based at least in part on a path for said remote storage device specified by a user at said configured multifunction device. C7, 33-40 & C9, 38-49

14. The method of claim 12, wherein identifying said remote storage device is based at least in part on a user profile. C3, 50-55

15. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

converting a document to electronic format at said configured multifunction device; and C2, 65-67

combining said document in electronic format with said retrieved user-requested data. C9, 3-7

16. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

combining said retrieved user-requested data with an electronic document generated at said configured multifunction device; and C11, 12-19

sending said combined electronic document and retrieved user-requested data from said configured multifunction device to a network destination. C3, 1-7 & C7, 12-25

17. The method of claim 12, wherein retrieved said user-requested data is from an address book operatively associated with said remote storage device. C12, 8-14

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising identifying a network destination for an electronic document generated at said configured multifunction device based on said user-requested data retrieved from said address book. C14, 15-20

19. The method of claim 17, further comprising editing an entry in said address book operatively associated with said remote storage device from said multifunction device C6, 50-67

20. The method of claim 17, further comprising displaying at least a portion of said data at said multifunction device. S2, [0018]

21. A multifunction device comprising computer-readable media operatively associated with said multifunction device and having computer-readable program code thereon including program code for identifying data operatively associated with a user-specified remote storage device, and program code for accessing said data operatively associated with said user-specified remote storage device from said multifunction device. S1 [0008] C9, 38-49

22. The multifunction device claim 21, wherein said data is an address book. C12, 8-14

23. The multifunction device of claim 22, wherein said computer-readable program code comprises:

program code for retrieving an entry from said address book, said entry identifying a network destination; C12, 8-23

program code for associating said entry from said address book with an electronic document at said multifunction device; and C7, 14-26

program code for sending said electronic document to said network destination identified by said entry from said address book. C7, 16-22

24. The multifunction device of claim 21, wherein said data is a document in electronic format. C2, 65-67

25. The multifunction device of claim 21, wherein said computer-readable program code comprises:

program code for sending a document in electronic format from said multifunction device to a network destination. C

26. The multifunction device of claim 21, wherein said computer-readable program code further comprises:

program code for combining a document in electronic format with a document image at said multifunction device; C3, 1-7 & C7, 12-25 C9, 3-7

program code for sending said combination of said document in electronic format and said document image from said multifunction device to a network destination. C5, 30-40

27. The multifunction device of claim 21, wherein said user-specified remote device is another multifunction device. C7, 26-40

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object